

A Request by the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee

CONTROL BY THE STATE HIGHWAY PATROL OF TRANSPORTATION AT SPECIAL EVENTS

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Statutory Requirements by the JLTOC

- **SECTION 25.9.(a)** The Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee shall study the feasibility of assessing a fee for services provided by the State Highway Patrol or the Department of Transportation for certain special events. In conducting this study, the Committee shall:
- 1. Determine the costs associated with providing traffic control devices.
- 2. Determine personnel to provide traffic control and direction at special functions and events.
- 3. Develop criteria to determine events, if any, for which a fee will be assessed
- 4. Develop criteria to determine the amount of the fee, if any, that should be assessed.
- **SECTION 25.9.(b)** The Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee shall make a report to the 2010 Regular Session of the 2009 General Assembly not later than April 1, 2010 detailing the information required by this Section and shall provide any recommended changes in current legislation or proposed new legislation if required.



Problem/Solution

- □ Problem Displacement of on-duty personnel. Currently on-duty personnel, as part of their regular 40-hour work week schedule, are assigned traffic control duties at certain special events. As a result, fewer troopers are present in their district, taking calls for service and performing patrol functions
- □ <u>Solution</u> <u>Eliminating displacement of on-duty personnel</u> with off-duty personnel compensated through receipts.



Statistics for Special Functions and Events 2007 through 2009

Year	# of Events	Total Cost	Total Personnel
2007	34	\$1,442,035	1500
2008	38	\$1,137,534	1227
2009 ¹	52	\$1,525,473 ²	1963

¹ – The increase in 2009 resulted from an addition of Campbell & UNCP football games, additional festivals, and two (2) additional auto races.

 $^{^2}$ - The total cost reflects personnel costs at the straight time rate + mileage, meals, & lodging expenses. Based on charging time & $\frac{1}{2}$, the personnel costs would be multiplied X 1.5 resulting in an increase in total cost.



Types of Traffic Control Functions

(SEE: Handout 2009 Special Event Tracking Sheet)

□University

- NCSU
- UNC-CH
- ECU
- UNCP

□State

- NC State Fair
- Western State Fairs
- State Fair Grounds Fire Works

Local

- Various Festivals/Concerts
- UNC Halloween
- Southport 4th of July Festival

Private

- Charlotte
- Rockingham
- Universities/Colleges



Options to Capture Funds Associated with Providing Traffic Control Services

- □ **OPTION #1** Under G.S. authority, SHP contracts direct with event organizer needing traffic control services.
- □ OPTION #2 SHP is provided with receipts from the Highway Fund, above and beyond its annual allocation to offset the costs encumbered by providing traffic control services.
- □ **OPTION #3** Use Vehicle Registration fee as a revenue source to pay for Traffic Control Services.
- □ **OPTION** #4 No Change in providing traffic control services.



OPTION #1 (Direct Contract)

- Event Organizer makes request to SHP
- Contract executed with Event Organizer

SHP Performs Traffic Control Services

SHP Bills Event Organizer based on services performed & terms of contract

Event Organizer pays SHP; Funds deposited Into dedicated cost center for payment of services rendered



OPTION #2 (Highway Fund)

Event Organizer makes request to SHP

SHP Performs Traffic Control

SHP Bills Highway Fund based on Traffic Services performed

SHP draws down funds from Highway Fund & deposits into dedicated cost center for payment of services rendered



OPTION #3 (Vehicle Registration)

Event Organizer makes request to SHP

SHP Performs Traffic Control

SHP Bills account generated from Vehicle Registration funding for Traffic Control Services performed

SHP draws down funds deposits into dedicated cost center for payment of services rendered



Criteria for Events / Fees

- □ Traffic control **events**, as determined by District designee, that require additional resources outside of the district (county).
- □ A flat **fee** would be assessed in the form of an hourly wage that is non-rank specific would be charged per trooper required to perform traffic services.
- □ Expenses, in addition to the flat fee, include mileage as well as meals and lodging, if applicable.

Proposed Fee Schedule

□ Fee – up to \$50/hour per trooper

- □ Mileage (if applicable) \$.50/mile
- □ Lodging (if applicable) \$66.00/night

□ Meals (if applicable) - \$35.13/day



Conclusion